

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): John W. Jacobs and Elizabeth A. Dauch
Assignee: NEC Electronics America, Inc
Title: TUNGSTEN PLUG CORROSION PREVENTION
METHOD USING IONIZED AIR
Application No.: Unassigned Filing Date: Herewith
Examiner: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Docket No.: NEC0254US

Austin, Texas
October 28, 2003

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
37 CFR § 1.97(b)

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the documents listed on the accompanying PTO Form-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner for the above patent application. Copies of these documents are enclosed.

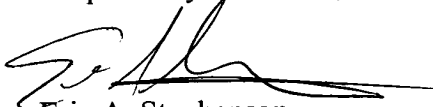
Citation of these documents shall not be construed as:

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2. a representation that a search has been made; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

EXPRESS MAIL NUMBER:

EV 304 737 528 US

Respectfully submitted,


Eric A. Stephenson
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 38,321

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| U.S. Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office | | | | | Attorney Docket No.: NEC0254US | | Serial No.: Unassigned | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | | | | | Applicant(s): John W. Jacobs and Elizabeth A. Dauch | | | |
| ► EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV 304 737 528 US ◀ | | | | | Filing Date: Concurrently herewith | | Group Art Unit: Unassigned | |

| U.S. Patent Documents | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|----|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
| | AA | 4,901,194 | Feb. 13, 1990 | Steinman et al. | 361 | 213 | Dec. 29, 1988 |
| | AB | 6,077,762 | Jun. 20, 2000 | Victor C. Liang et al. | 438 | 593 | Dec. 22, 1997 |
| | AC | 6,153,531 | Nov. 28, 2000 | Subhas Bothra, et al. | 438 | 745 | Dec. 22, 1997 |
| | AD | | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | | |
| | AF | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |
| | AK | | | | | | |

| Foreign Patent Documents | | | | | | | Translation | |
|--------------------------|----|----------|------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | Document | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Yes | No |
| | AL | | | | | | | |
| | AM | | | | | | | |
| | AN | | | | | | | |
| | AO | | | | | | | |
| | AP | | | | | | | |

| OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) | | |
|--|----|--|
| | AQ | Bothra, S., H. Sur and V. Liang, "A New Failure Mechanism by Corrosion of Tungsten in a Tungsten Plug Process," Technology Development, VLSI Technology, Inc., San Jose, California, 95131; 1998 IEEE. |
| | AR | |
| | AS | |

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|-----------|------------------|
| Examiner: | Date Considered: |
|-----------|------------------|

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with your communication to applicant.